

Message from CEO Robert Byers



Greetings from our team at Namerind. As summer is now in full swing, many organizations, including ours, are beginning their planning process for the coming year. This summer marks the end of three years of working with a dedicated team to put together a proposal for a mixed-use development that would revitalize Regina's downtown area, providing much-needed housing and services.

It is exciting to continue to propose and execute projects in Regina that support and strengthen our community. In this issue you will also hear from architect Brian Saunders, who is an important part of our dedicated project team. We are lucky to work with so many talented and dedicated professionals who compliment our team on all of our projects and partnership programs.

As always, should you have any questions about our projects or the content of this newsletter, I invite you to contact our office or drop by anytime. You can learn more by visiting our website at www.namerindhousing.ca.

Recent Announcements

Namerind Proposal Would Revitalize Downtown Regina, Provide Critical Housing

Namerind Housing recently submitted a response to the government RFP calling for proposals on the site located at the southeast corner of 11th Avenue and Lorne Street. Namerind's proposed project would provide condominium apartments, affordable housing units, a child day-care centre, a grocery store/retail space, and parking; all much needed in Regina's downtown. A group of housing experts, architects, engineers, construction cost experts and business planners developed the proposal over a three-year period.

"We see this as an opportunity to utilize our expertise in community building and housing revitalization to bring much needed housing and services

to our downtown," said Namerind President and CEO Robert Byers. "This type of mixed use development is working very well in other Canadian cities and we see this as a unique opportunity to serve the community."

Namerind's proposal includes:

- a 16-storey structure consisting of two 11 – storey towers on a 5-storey base covering much of the proposed lots;
- 190 parking spaces in two levels of underground parking, plus an additional 25 surface parking spaces on the alley and room for waste containers;
- Four floors of office / commercial space (95,500 square feet) spanning the breadth of the footprint;

- Main floor retail space totaling 17,469 square feet, including a 10,420 square foot grocery store
- A 5,850 square foot day care; a high priority of downtown workers and residents;
- Two 11-storey residential towers, including: 21 3-bedroom units, 115 2-bedroom units and 32-one bedroom units

"This proposal, if approved, will allow people to live closer to work, and spend more time in the downtown area. Businesses will thrive and the community will be revitalized", said Byers.

For more information, please contact Namerind at 1-306-525-0147.

Ask the Expert



Brian Saunders is an architect with over 45 years of combined experience in Saskatchewan, United Kingdom, Bermuda and China. For the past three years, he has been the design architect and development consultant for Namerind's proposed Downtown Regina project.

Q: What is it about the field of architecture that keeps you engaged after 45 years?

A: I am motivated by a desire to produce cost effective, sustainable design that is functional and responsive to requirements. I thoroughly enjoy working with people to bring their thoughts and ideas to a point where they can benefit client and community. Teamwork is vitally important, and I am inspired by this process and seeing our ideas come to life.

Q: What are some of the projects that you have worked on locally in Regina?

A: I have completed a number of master planning projects and designed a number of buildings at both the University of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan. For example, the recent renovations and additions to Place Riel at the University of Saskatchewan, and the north and south residence buildings and the current student's new residence at the University of Regina. I designed the Saskatchewan Transportation Corporation's new head office building

and terminal, the Queen Elizabeth II addition to Saskatchewan's Government House, two hotels and several award winning multi-residential buildings to mention a few. In 2009, I semi-retired, but as of 2011, I returned to working almost full-time on projects including Namerind's proposed Downtown Project.

Q: Why do you think this proposed project is important?

A: Sometimes it takes very little for people to go from having no residence to having a home of which they can be proud. I believe that all projects that include affordable housing are really about introducing people to a better way of life. What makes this project especially interesting is that it will provide not only affordable housing, but also much needed market rate residential condominiums and access to services in the downtown core. It also includes children's day-care, grocery store, retail space and car parking spaces – all critically needed in Downtown Regina to revive community neighbourhood and to support business growth. This project will enable those who live and work downtown to access many required services in one convenient location, helping to create a higher quality of life. In all the years that I have practiced architecture, I have never been part of a project or team so vital to community development.

C O N T A C T

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Meet our Staff



Name:

Raylene Thompson,
Administrative Assistant

Describe a typical day for you at Namerind:

Part of my job is to field calls from potential tenants and answer questions and direct them to the right person. The bulk of my day is usually spent on accounting work – handling the billing for Resting Place Lodge, working on invoicing and works orders, and supporting our accounting team here.

What is your favourite thing about working at Namerind?

Definitely the people. I enjoy the family atmosphere at Namerind – everyone is very professional but we also support each other as much as we can. Every day is exciting because everyone here is so different and adds something unique to our team. I also love working with numbers, so I really enjoy the work that I do here.

Outside of work, what are some of your favourite ways to spend time?

I have four children and four grandchildren and I love being active – taking walks or cycling, especially. Healthy eating is a passion of mine and my other passion is learning. I love to learn new things and can often be found researching different topics either at the library or online. I'm also taking an accounting course right now and enjoy passing on to my family the new things I learn. In my spare time, I also enjoy reading, either about new subjects or just for pleasure.

Raylene has been part of the Namerind team for over a year. She previously worked at Namerind in the same role from 2004-2008.